

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair



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1 May 2007

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DRAFT CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER, DREW TUNNEL NEVADA COUNTY

We have enclosed a draft Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) for the Drew Tunnel of the Watt Incline Shaft of the Massachusetts Hill Mine in Grass Valley. The draft CAO sets forth a specific scope of work and enforceable time schedule for compliance. This CAO requires Newmont USA Limited (Newmont) to examine two aspects of the Drew Tunnel discharge.

First, the CAO requires Newmont to investigate, identify, and assess the sources of the water and pollutants. This CAO further requires Newmont to investigate and assess source control methods to reduce the quantity of pollutants and/or water discharged to waters of the state.

Second, Newmont is required to determine how to treat and/or dispose of any remaining water and pollutants discharged from the Drew Tunnel in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Newmont must ensure that the appropriate permits for such discharges cover any remaining discharge once source control measures are implemented.

Any comments on the draft CAO must be submitted to our office by **1 June 2007**. Please note we have received the 19 April 2007 letter from Jacqueline Beckett, Senior Counsel for Newmont, regarding the Drew Tunnel discharge. Regional Water Board counsel will review the Beckett letter and the draft CAO during the public comment period.

If you have any questions or would like to meet to discuss the draft Order prior to 1 June 2007, please contact me at (916) 464-4631.

STEVE E. ROSENBAUM Senior Engineering Geologist Land Disposal Program Lower Sacramento River Watershed

California Environmental Protection Agency



Enclosure: Draft Cleanup and Abatement Order

cc w/encl.: Frances McChesney, Office of Chief Counsel, SWRCB, Sacramento

Deborah S. Bardwick, Attorney at Law, Meyers Nave, Oakland Jeffrey Foltz, Interim City Administrator, City of Grass Valley

Tim Hackworth, Acting Director of Public Works, City of Grass Valley

William Jennings, Watershed Enforcers, Stockton Wolf Creek Community Alliance, Grass Valley

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